

July 31, 2016

PREACHING & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ON YOUR DARKEST DAY

Psalm 88 & John 1: 4-5
"The light shines in the darkness..."
John 1: 5

Remembering our friend and pastor, Randy Boyer, and the testimony of his life. The scripture he used at the last Healing service.

August 7, 2016

KILLING JESUS

Communion
I Corinthians 15: 12-26
"In Christ shall all be made alive"
I Corinthians 15: 22

The Bill O'Reilly Book of the same title; the end of the story is Jesus' victory over the last enemy which is death.

August 14, 2016

FAITH OF FOUR FRIENDS

Mark 2: 1-12
"And when Jesus saw their faith..."
Mark 2: 5

Sometimes our faith needs to undergird the faith of another in order for God to be at work in the midst of healing. Why we need to support one another in prayer.

August 21, 2016

Rev. Kay Balderose preaching

August 28, 2016

Guest Preacher: Pastor Jeff Kipp

Pastor Kipp is pastor of a Messianic Christian (completed Jewish congregation) in Pittsburgh; we support his Chosen People Ministries through the Mission Budget of our church.

September 4, 2016

Guest Preacher: Pastor Pierre from Haiti

Labor Day Weekend

Communion

Pastor Pierre is the head of the New Testament Mission in LaCroix, Haiti, where our mission teams do ministry. He is supported through our church mission budget and through many members of our congregation sponsoring children at the New Testament Mission.

September 9, 2016 ~ very special worship in remembrance of 09.11.01

RALLY DAY ~ Christian Education 2016-17 Kick-off!!

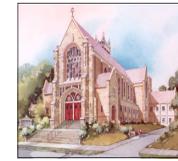
Let's rally for a higher purpose! Rally day will be held September 18. We will kick off the fall with Sunday school and adult education offerings. With a variety of offerings there are classes to help in the search of your higher purpose and to strengthen your faith walk. Following the 11 o'clock service, we will celebrate with a picnic lunch and fun. We look forward to seeing you!

We would typically publish the August birthdays and daily scripture readings and library book reviews in The Messenger. Conservation of space prohibits that but they will be posted on the website and a printed list will be on the bulletin board at the church.

DEADLINE FOR THE September MESSENGER IS August 15.

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The Summer Messenger

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant - August 2016

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Rev. Randall V. Boyer

Associate Pastor Emeritus

A SUMMER OF FAITH AND TRUST part 2

Dear friends:

Last year at this time my August Messenger Pastor Letter was entitled, "A Summer of Faith and Trust". As I was re-reading it I was again struck by the fact of how wonderful and generous our congregation is.

We have received matching contributions to repair our wonderful Skinner Pipe Organ. Thank you to those folks who matched a \$5,000 restricted gift!

A generous anonymous donor pledged a \$5,000 matching gift in order to fully fund our two new Christian Ed positions. I am told that this match as of the end of July is likewise *almost* fully funded, although there is still an opportunity to participate in this matching gift. Your gift might put us over the top! This additional \$10,000 will make certain we do well in bringing Jessica Hickman and Pastor Kay Balderose on board in a good way. Thank you to those folks who have and will be part of that matching campaign.

Yet another generous anonymous donor has also come forward to challenge us with another \$5,000 matching gift, this to encourage people who do not yet pledge to make contributions toward the Session Operating Budget this fall. I have full faith and confidence that the wonderful, faithful and generous members of our congregation will again respond in kind. You will be hearing more about this later this summer.

Sometimes, don't we needlessly worry about things like money and provision and wonder if indeed the Lord God will bless us in our lives?

Let us all bring our faith and trust to the Lord as a gift this August, believing and trusting that He who has provided in the past shall surely provide for our future, as well. God bless you in your faithfulness, congregation whom I love.

Faithfully,
Dr. Stu Broberg

The Church of the Covenant

267 East Beau St., Washington, PA 15301 - 724.222.0190

churchoftheco@comcast.net ~ www.churchofthecov.org

Worship Services: Sundays: 8:30, 9:43 & 11:00

Adult and Children's Sunday School will resume in September.

Church Office Hours - Mon. - Fri. 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Marilyn Crawford

Memorial Fund
Flower Garden Fund
Memorial Fund
Memorial Fund
Memorial Fund
Christian Education Matching Gift

T. Jean Piatt
Ruth E. Boger
Wayne & Kathie Hunnell
Elizabeth Stevenson
George & Mary Alice Jones
Dona C. Hamilton

In Honor of Grace Roe's 90th Birthday

Camp Pine Springs Scholarship Harry, Johnnie & Stuart Broberg

In Honor of Harry R. Broberg - Father's Day

The Radio Ministry Stuart Broberg

James Alan Grimm

Vacation Bible School Edna A. Grimm

Harry R. Broberg

Christian Education Matching Gift Robert, Mary & Katie Wichterman
Christian Education Matching Gift Dona C. Hamilton
Music Memorial Fund Anna B. Jeffries

FUNERALS

Harry R. Broberg died on Sunday, July 10, 2016. The funeral service was held on Thursday July 14, 2016 at the church with Rev. Stuart D. Broberg officiating. Interment at the Brush Run Cemetery, Venetia, PA.

Elizabeth S. Downing died on Tuesday, July 19, 2016. The funeral service was held on Saturday, July 23rd at William G. Neal Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating. Internment at the Washington Cemetery.

Thank You for Your Love and Support!

My Mother and I want to thank you all for your wonderful and loving support offered during this time of loss as we grieve the death of my Father, Harry Broberg. The service was magnificent, with choir members from four different churches participating. The music was superb; the turn-out amazing. I read to my Mother each night all the many cards and notes that are still coming in. The other night I went through and counted them all –more than 500 to date. What a blessing to be part of such a wonderful church family. Thank you! Pastor Stu Broberg

VOLUNTEER HELP IN THE NURSERY: If you love the little folks, we have the perfect opportunity for you!! We could use some help in the nursery over the summer and would appreciate it if a few good volunteers would lend a hand! Jessica Hickman, our new Program Director of Christian Education, is the person to contact: Call her @ (716)499-8157 or email - peech-

PIRATES VS PADRES AUGUST 10! Let's take a van load! Let's caravan to PNC Park! The game starts at 7:05 pm. We'll **leave the church at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$25.** If you can drive let us know. The church van holds twelve and we hope to have others drive as well. Give Don Nixon \$25 by Monday, August 1 if you can go. Make checks out to The Church of the Covenant. Tickets will be purchased once we know how many we need: **Deadline: August 1.** All ages are welcome ~ make it a fun, family night!!

MEN OF THE COVENANT All men are invited to a time of man food, fellowship and spiritual challenge on **Wednesday, August 17 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.** We'll meet at the home of **Bill and Barb Payne** at 354 Malone Ridge Rd., Washington 15301. Let's have the first half of the alphabet (A thru M) bring dessert and N thru Z bring a side dish. Let Don Nixon know if you can attend. (412-480-5895)

A big **Thank you** to **Charlie Bowers** whose hard work and skill built a container (on wheels!) for all the Fair Trade items. This is a wonderful addition to this ministry. The ministry not only benefits farmers but also mission efforts of Presbyterian Women.

SAVE THE DATE

Hands and Hearts is sponsoring a **Blood Drive on Sunday, August 21st from 8am to 1pm in the dining room.** Details coming soon in the Messenger and bulletin. All participants receive an I Bleed Black and Gold T-Shirt. Your donation of blood ALWAYS makes a difference!

PARISH NURSE CORNER

Hands and Hearts is hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, August 21st from 8am to 1pm in the dining room. The Central Blood Bank will be giving all participants an I Bleed Black and Gold T-shirt. Your donation ALWAYS makes a difference! Donors can be as young as 16 (with parental consent). All donors must be in general good health, be feeling well on the day of donation and weigh at least 110 lbs. The community is invited! You may sign up by calling your Parish Nurse, Linda Grimm, RN, at 724-263-7911 or sign up at the Welcome Center. Walk-ins are also welcome! Help save a life on August 21st!

MENAU MISSION TRIP

Friends, on **Sept 17** a group of about 20 persons will be departing Washington to travel to the Menaul School in Albuquerque NM to engage in a mission trip. We are happy to report that we have several new people going with us and old friends are returning. During this trip we provide assistance to school with maintenance projects which free up staff to concentrate on routine work. Money saved by not having to pay outside contractors is used for meeting the cost of providing scholarship help to the qualified NM students unable to meet school costs otherwise. NM continues to have the lowest school rating as far as scholastic achievement. During our trip we also have opportunity to interact with students and display God's love through our continued caring for their school. We asked for your continued individual support with gift card to Wal-Mart, Lowes, and Home Depot, etc. Financial contributions are also used to meet costs of group meals, ground transportation. Participants are responsible for their travel expenses. We thank you for any and all support. Lastly, please keep us in your prayers.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK

The Family Promise team is collecting non-perishable food for their upcoming host week, **August 7-14, 2016.** Needed items include fruit cups, granola bars, individual packs of chips, microwavable popcorn, individual containers of macaroni and cheese, juice boxes, pudding or Jell-O cups. Items can be left in the church office, labeled for Family Promise.

WHERE WERE YOU ON 9/11?

I think most of us, if not all of us, remember what we were doing, who we were with and how we felt. I know for me, connecting with my husband and children was foremost, long before anyone understood what was going on. I had just left a home in the Mon Valley and heard the news driving down the road. I kept changing the stations on the radio, what is this one saying? What is the other reporting? I couldn't wait to be home. This year will mark 15 years since 9/11. You can help The Church of the Covenant as we prepare to commemorate this event by submitting your account of where you were on 9/11. Your stories will be compiled in a booklet to be shared with our church family. Please send them to the church office, by email if possible., churchoftheco@comcast.net. (We will accept written/typed recollections if necessary.) **Deadline is August 31, 2016.** We want to remember. -Kathy Hedges -Worship and Music Committee

USHER TEAM 6 on duty for the month of AUGUST

Gordon Core, Abe Key, Dennis Myers, Larry Meyers, Jerry Smith

VBS Report ~ July 20-22, we welcomed 65 young people for the Cave Quest VBS program. They were very involved each day in the Bible point sessions, crafts, imagination station, Bible quest, games and songs. These young people learned each day that Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love and HIS power. It was amazing to see their growth in such a short time, they sought knowledge each day and were so eager to hear the lessons. Thank you to everyone who shared their children with us. Thank you to everyone that donated items. Thank you to everyone that volunteered. Without you this program would not have been such a huge success! (We still have a few VBS shirts left. If you are interested in getting one, please contact Jessica Hickman. For a \$10 donation, you can sport an awesome purple Cave Quest shirt!)

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: The last several weeks, I have been approached by different church attendees, stating "Are you playing the organ today?" "Will we be hearing the piano or the organ this morning?" "We have been missing the sound of the organ." "We love when you play the piano." "We love when you play the organ." Probably the most important question has been, "Is the organ repair complete?" Well, the answer to that question is Yes. And No. Yes, the repair on the Great of the organ (the middle manual of the organ) is fully repaired, thanks to the generous giving of the members of this wonderful church. And no, the organ repair is not complete.

Our wonderful Building and Grounds Supervisor, Ralph Farabee, tells me that the blower part of the organ that produces the organ's sound needs repaired. In order to save time and money, Ralph will be doing the repairs, along with the assistance of George Camlin. Due to being busy with other work around the church, this repair has not been started, but should be done by the time of the service being planned to commemorate the 15th anniversary of 9/11. Because I am not sure when Ralph and George will be starting this repair, I will continue to prepare music for the piano, with hymns being played on our awesome organ every now and then. Your patience and support is greatly appreciated!

AND, SPEAKING OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11:

THE JUBILATE RINGERS will be ringing a very special arrangement of "America the Beautiful" by Arnold B. Sherman. To prepare for this, additional rehearsals have been scheduled. We will rehearse on Thursday, July 21, 5:30-7:00; Thursday, August 4, 5:30-7:00; Thursday, August 18, 5:30-7:00; Thursday, September 1, 5:30-7:00; and, Thursday, September 8, 5:30-7:00.

THE COVENANT CHOIR will sing a very moving anthem, "Spared", a poem written by Wendy Cope, set to music by Howard Goodall. (lyrics below)

It wasn't you, it wasn't me, up there, two thousand feet above
A New York street. We're safe and free, a little while, to live and love,

Imagining what might have been- the phone-call from the blazing tower,
A last farewell on the machine, while someone sleeps another hour,

Or worse, to say goodbye and listen to each other's pain,
Send helpless love across the sky, knowing we'll never meet again,

Or jump together, hand in hand, to certain death. Spared all of this
For now, how well I understand that love is all, is all there is.

To prepare for this anthem, additional rehearsals have been set. The Sopranos and Altos will rehearse on Thursday, August 11, from 6:00-7:00, with the Tenors and Basses rehearsing that evening from 7:00-8:00. The Sopranos and Altos will next rehearse on Thursday, August 25, from 6:00-6:30, with the Tenors and Basses rehearsing from 6:30-7:00. At 7:15 that evening, we will gather, along with the Jubilate Ringers, in the dining room for an old-fashioned ice cream social! The Covenant Choir will then rehearse on Sunday mornings, starting on Sunday, August 28 at 10:00; Sunday, September 4 at 10:00; and, Sunday, September 11 at 10:00. ***THE COVENANT KIDS' CHOIR*** will ring the Kristal Bells at the 11:00 service on 9/11 with rehearsal at 10:30 that morning in the Cov Kids' Room.